

REMARKS

Claims 7 and 10 were rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. 112. The Examiner's rejection is well-taken and claim 7 and 10 have been withdrawn.

Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ho. Claims 1-4 have been withdrawn.

Claims 5, 6, and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Claims 5, 6 and 8 have been withdrawn.

Ho discloses an animal feeder which is unsuitable for use as a baby bottle holder.

Skelton discloses a "support apparatus" for infant feeding but has a number of disadvantages over Applicant's invention as claimed in new Claims 9-16. Skelton is intended to be used with an infant carrier seat. Applicant's invention can be used with or without a carrier seat. Skelton requires a wedge-shaped member which is cumbersome and more difficult to adjust to the particular infant's size and needs. As discussed by Skelton, as the wedge-shaped member is required, the user must be concerned with the camber 7 in order to adjust the tilt of the bottle. With Applicant's invention, adjusting the tilt of the bottle is so easy that the baby can do it for himself.

Further, the wedge-shaped member in Skelton must be secured to the carrier seat as well as being secured to the bottle. The support member which secures the wedge-shaped member to the bottle is a single strap, unlike Applicant's grip. The one strap does not provide the same security combined with flexibility as Applicant's grip which secures the bottle with or without straps.

Kordecki discloses a cumbersome "System for Bottle Feeding an Infant" which comprises a base 16 adapted to rest on the infant and a separate bottle holder 18. Base 16 and holder 18 are interconnected with hinges. The design disclosed in Kordecki is substantially more expensive to manufacture and less safe than Applicant's invention as the baby is at risk of catching his fingers in the hinge or between the holder and the base. While Kordecki has provided a mast with slots to adjust the tilt of the bottle, the adjustment must be made by the infant's caregiver. In contrast, applicant's design is extremely inexpensive to manufacture and

the baby may adjust the tilt of the bottle himself completely free from danger of hurting himself with any of the parts.

Castillo, a design patent, discloses a wedge-shape member similar to Skelton with a concavity to hold the bottle. However, Castillo does not have any means to secure the bottle in the feeding position. None of the prior patents suggest having a holder shaped with lip formed in the upper surface which wraps back around the bottle to secure the baby bottle as disclosed and claimed by Applicant in Claim 15. Applicant's design includes a lip in the upper surface 134 which serves to secure the bottle into position for feeding. Independent Claims 15 and 17 both require upper surface 134 or its equivalent which is not suggested by the prior art. Claims 16 and 18-22 are dependent on Claim 15.

Unlike any of the prior art, the preferred embodiment of Applicant's invention uses closed-cell foam which is both soft to prevent injury to the infant and repels moisture such as spilt milk.

In summary, none of the prior art discloses or suggests the unique features of Applicant's invention which solves the problems. Applicant respectfully request that new Claims 16-22 be allowed or that the Examiner conduct a telephone interview with Applicant's attorney.

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Respectfully Submitted:



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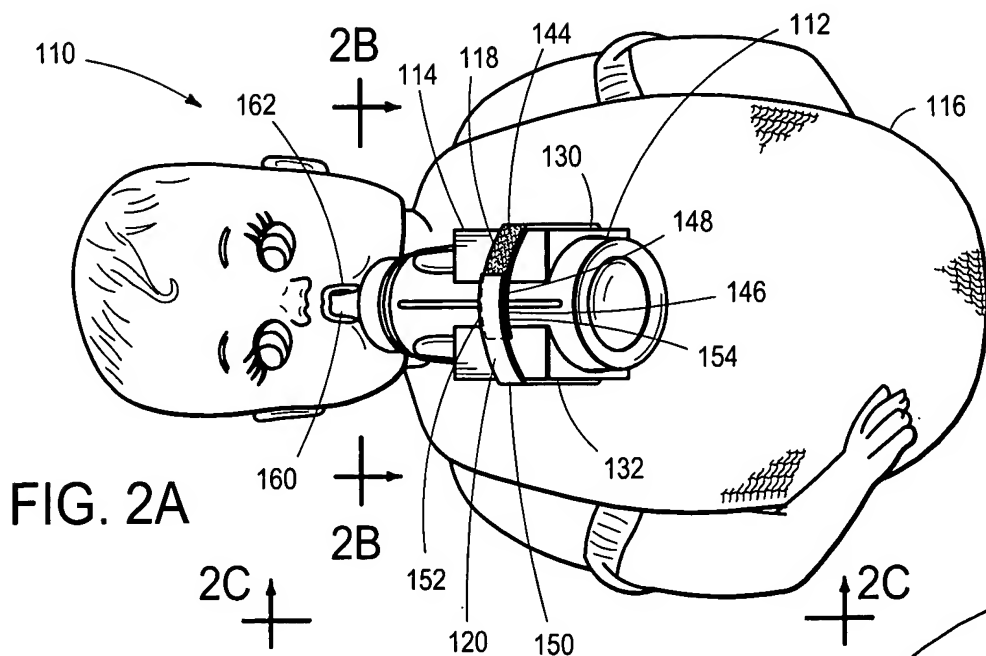
Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 2B & 2D. This sheet, which includes Fig. 2A-2D replaces the original sheet including 2A-D. In Figures 2B & 2D, previously omitted element 135 has been added.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

Annotated Sheet of Drawing Showing Changes



Element
135
Added

Element
135
Added

